

**Report of Accomplishments**  
**Fiscal Year 2005**  
**Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District**  
**3862 East 300 North**  
**Rigby, Idaho 83442**  
**(208) 745-6664, ext. 3**  
**Contact: Mel Briggs, Chairman**  
**County Served: Jefferson**  
**Legislative District: 35**



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### **Conservation District Mission**

The Jefferson SWCD is dedicated to promoting good sound conservation and coordinates technical, financial, and educational assistance for responsible management that conserves and improves soil, water, and other natural resources on the land.

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### **Natural Resource Improvements Summary**

- Instrumental in windbreak plantings to provide wind protection, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. 13,830 trees & shrubs sold to 237 landowners along with 40,000 feet of fabric mulch. 4 CCRP windbreaks planted involving 11,330 feet in 12 rows.
- Reduction of noxious weeds through Annual Weed Meeting where 54 landowners attended; also through County Fair, Newsletters, and Menan Leafy Spurge Initiative.



2 year old windbreak consisting of  
Hybrid Poplars and Blue Spruce

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### **Conservation District Priority # 1 - Weed Management**

- Assisted Jefferson County Weed Department with cost-share agreements for Menan Leafy Spurge Initiative Projects. Seven landowners participated involving about 525 acres.
- Organized and sponsored annual district weed awareness meeting reaching 54 landowners. Very successful.
- 5 news articles on weeds printed in September, March and June district newsletters.

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### **Conservation District Priority #2 - Irrigated Cropland**

- Provided technical assistance, including ditch and canal surveys, to 3 cooperators to help improve their irrigation water management.
- Provided administrative assistance and submitted 22 EQIP applications for improved water management. 15 of these EQIP applications were approved.
- Promoted windbreak plantings through CCRP, WHIP, Conservation Tree Sales Program, Newsletters, and office display. Provided technical assistance on tree species, spacing, seedbed prep, planting, watering, and weed control. Assisted in planting 4 windbreaks along cropland including 11,330 feet in 12 rows. Very beneficial for wind erosion.
- Held Local Conservation Working Group Meeting. Instrumental in obtaining EQIP funding for surface water irrigated cropland.

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### **Conservation District Priority # 3 - Water Quality**

- Provided fertilizer recommendations to 21 cooperators for nutrient management.
- Provided engineering design for waste storage facility to local dairy operator.
- Attended all South Fork WAG meetings and kept the district board informed on happenings. Helped obtain funding and administered financial and clerical assistance to the WAG.
- Groundwater quality presentations were given to twelve 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes and at 4-H Camp reaching 375 students.

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## Information & Education/ Public Outreach

- Newsletter published September, December, March and June reaching 1100 cooperators each publication.
- Participated in County Fair reaching about 350 people with a weed exhibit.
- District tour held for supervisors, spouses, county weed, extension agent, commissioners, and NRCS staff. Toured Diversion Dam, bio weed control release sites sweeping for flea beetles, and 2 CCRP windbreaks.
- Participated in INEEL Science Expo with booth “Dig in, Get Your Hands Dirty”, reaching over 10,000 people.
- Nominated cooperator as Conservation Farmer of the Year. Presented award at Rigby Chamber of Commerce Farmer Merchant Banquet in March.
- Participated in Legislative Display at the State Capitol Building.
- Participated in the “Welcome to Jefferson County” Night with a District Display reaching 150 patrons.
- Conducted annual Conservation Poster Contest reaching 300 students. All participants received a certificate.
- Provided a \$100 scholarship for student to attend Natural Resources Workshop in Ketchum.
- Conducted annual Conservation Speech Contest. District winner went on to compete at State Contest.
- Assisted with the Regional Soils/Land Judging Contest held in our District. 85 students participated.
- Provided \$200 scholarship to FFA team to compete at the National Soils/Land Judging Competition.
- Provided groundwater presentation to 75 students at 4-H Camp.

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## Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Organized and sponsored Weed Awareness Meeting for landowners
- Coordinated Menan Leafy Spurge Initiative Project Jefferson County
- Participant in “Welcome to Jefferson County” Night
- Participant in South Fork WAG and provided clerical assistance for 3 meetings

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**Synopsis of Assistance Coordinated for Constituents with Conservation Partners** - to plan, design and implement best management practices to protect, enhance, and conserve Idaho’s renewable natural resources.

Source	Purpose/Benefit	Funded Amount
County	District Operations	\$ 5,000.00
State	District Operations	\$ 11,447.55
Upper Snake River CWMA	Weed Management	\$ 1,118.54
IASCD/NRCS	Farm Bill Administrative Assistance	\$ 1,567.36
State	South Fork WAG	\$ 528.54
USDA Farm Programs*	Conservation/EQIP	\$ 572,114.00

\* Entire Jefferson County/ includes  
Three Conservation Districts

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**Idaho Conservation Districts assisting  
landowners & operators with their  
conservation choices**

FFA Land Judging Contest held in Jefferson SWCD

